BPL families in Gujarat

*274. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government are allotting BPL quota wheat and rice on the basis of 21.20 lakh BPL families instead of about 36 lakh BPL families in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Central Government propose to increase the monthly quota of BPL wheat and rice on demand from Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the allocation of foodgrains to all States and Union Territories is made on the basis of the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission (1993-94) and on the population projections of the Registrar General of India (as on 01-03-2000), which criteria is being uniformly followed for all the States/UTs and which cannot be altered in isolation.

2. The allocation of foodgrains to Gujarat is made on the basis of an estimated 21.20 lakh BPL families, which includes 3.25 lakh Antyodaya families.

Recovery of EPF dues from defaulting employers

*275. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 1,511 crore of workers' money is yet

to be recovered by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) from the defaulting employers;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to recover this money of workers from defaulting employers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Employees' Provident Fund Organization has been lauanching prosecution cases under Section 14A and 14AA of the EPF and MP Act against defaulting employers/ establishments for non-remittance of the contribution as well as non-furnishing of returns. The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has also been filing cases under Section 406/409 IPC through the Police authorities which led to criminal cases against the employers.

(d) Does not arise in view of (b) and (c) above.

Visit of leader of opposition of Pakistan Assembly

*276. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the leader of opposition of Pakistan National Assembly visited India, recently; and

(b) if so, the details of his visit and his meeting with PM?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) The leader of